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**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant : Leitner, et al.
App. No : 10/643,708
Filed : August 19, 2003
For : RETRACTABLE VEHICLE STEP
Examiner : Gerald B. Klebe
Art Unit : 3618

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March 24, 2005
(Date)

Mark Kertz
Mark J. Kertz, Reg. No. 43,711

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO/SB/08 equivalent listing references for consideration:

Listing 1 reference.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.

Mark Kertz

Mark J. Kertz
Registration No. 43,711
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

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Docket No.: AMERMOT.066A

Customer No. 20,995

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant : Leitner, et al.
 App. No. : 10/643,708
 Filed : August 19, 2003
 For : RETRACTABLE VEHICLE STEP
 Examiner : Gerald B. Klebe
 Group Art Unit : 3618

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March 24, 2005

(Date)

Mark Kertz

Mark J. Kertz, Reg. No. 43,7111

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is a form PTO/SB/08 listing one reference.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

PUBLIC USE

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the following information pertaining to a public use:

It appears that one or more retractable vehicle steps similar to the design shown in Figures 7-9 of the present application were in public use in the United States more than one year before the filing date (August 19, 2003) of the present application, but less than one year before the filing date (October 16, 2002) of the parent of the present application. Thus, it is believed that this public use is applicable to the present claims only to the extent that any claims are not supported by the parent disclosure.

Appl. No. : 10/643,708
Filed : August 19, 2003

Docket No. AMERMOT.066A
Customer No. 20,995

To the extent that this public use is prior art, it is believed that all claims define over the publicly used design. Of course, the Examiner should make his own independent analysis.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate his consideration of the information set forth herein by signing the attached form PTO/SB/08.

Respectfully submitted,
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: March 24, 2005

By: Mark Kertz
Mark J. Kertz
Registration No. 43,711
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

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PTO/SB/08 Equivalent

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | Application No. | 10/643,708 |
| | | Filing Date | August 19, 2003 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Leitner, et al. |
| | | Art Unit | 3618 |
| (Multiple sheets used when necessary) | | Examiner | Gerald B. Klebe |
| SHEET 1 OF 1 | | Attorney Docket No. | AMSRMOT.066A |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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| | 3 | Information pertaining to public use set forth in Information Disclosure Statement of March 24, 2005. | | | |

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| *Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | |

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